IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace any previous listing of the claims with the following replacement listing of the claims:

Replacement Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method for supporting versioning of data in a content management system, said method comprising the steps of:

associating version numbers, each having a different value, with a data item, wherein said data item is externally inputted data that is managed by said content management system;

storing a most recent version of said data item in a first table;

storing a version of said data item other than said most recent version in a second table; and

performing an operation on said data item that changes a version of said data item in said first table or said second table determining the version of a stored data item based on said version number and a storage location of said stored data item.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of associating said version numbers with a different versions of said stored data item.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein each of said different versions stored data item is associated with a (version number − 1) value.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein ~~the~~ a particular version of said ~~stored~~ data item is determined based on an associated one of said (version number − 1) value~~s~~.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of generating a value for said (version number -1) value by incrementing said (version number − 1) value from zero (0) to n.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating a value for said version number by incrementing said version number from zero (0) to m.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein m has a predetermined maximum value.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said version number having a value of zero (0) is associated with said most recent version of said stored data item or an oldest version of said stored data item, depending on a context of use for said version number.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further comprising the step of performing an~~ wherein said operation ~~on said first and~~ places a copy of a current most recent version of said data item in said second table and updates said current most recent version in said first table to a new most recent version, and wherein said associating step associates a new version number with said new most recent version in said first table.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~9~~1, wherein said operation including said version number having a value of zero (0) is interpreted as a request for said most recent version of said stored data item, and said operation is selected from a group consisting of a query operation, a retrieve operation, and an update operation.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~9~~1, wherein said operation including said version number having a value of zero (0) is interpreted as a request for an oldest version of said stored data item, and said operation is a delete operation.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of performing comprises ~~further comprising~~ a step of performing a query for a ~~said stored~~ version ~~for~~of said data item stored in said first table or said second table..

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a first instance of a version of said data item is stored in said first table.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of performing comprises a ~~further comprising the~~ step of performing a query on said first table and said second table, wherein a column attribute of a column selected by said query is retained in a result of said query.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said query invokes a union operation.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said column attribute is obtained from a sequential query language description area (SQLDA) of said query result.

17. (Currently amended) A system for supporting versioning of data in a content management system, said system comprising:

a memory;

means for associating version numbers, each having a different value, with a data item, wherein said data item is externally inputted data that is managed by said content management system;

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means for storing a most recent version of said data item in said memory and a second table for storing a version of said data item other than said most recent version in said memory; and

means for <u>performing an operation on said data item that changes a version of said data item in said memory or said second table</u> ~~determining the version of a stored data item based on said version number and a storage location of said stored data item~~.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, comprising means for associating said version number<u>s</u> with <u>different versions of</u> said ~~stored~~ data item.

19. (Currently amended) The system of claim 18, wherein <u>each of</u> said <u>different versions</u> ~~stored data item~~ is associated with a (version number – 1) value.

20. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein ~~the~~<u>a particular</u> version of said ~~stored~~ data item is determined based on<u> an associated one of</u> said (version number – 1) value<u>s</u>.

21. (Original) The system of claim 19, comprising means for generating said (version number -1) value by incrementing said (version number – 1) value from zero (0) to n.

22. (Original) The system of claim 17, comprising means for generating said version number by incrementing said version number from zero (0) to m.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein m has a predetermined maximum value.

24. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein said version number having a value of zero (0) is associated with said most recent version of said stored data item or an oldest version of said stored data item, depending on a context of use for said version number.

25. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein ~~an~~ said operation including said version number having a value of zero (0) input to said system is interpreted as a request for said most recent version of said stored data item, and said operation is selected from a group consisting of a query operation, a retrieve operation, and an update operation.

26. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein ~~an~~ said operation including said version number having a value of zero (0) input to said system is interpreted as a request for an oldest version of said stored data item, and said operation is a delete operation.

27. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein a first instance of a version of said ~~database~~ data item is stored in a first table.

28. (Previously presented) The system of claim 27, wherein a column attribute of a column selected by a query performed on said first table and said second table is retained in a result of said query.

29. (Original) The system of claim 28, wherein said query invokes a union operation.

30. (Previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said column attribute is obtained from a sequential query language description area (SQLDA) of said query result.

31. (Currently amended) A storage medium having computer readable program

instructions embodied therein for supporting versioning of data in a content management system, said storage medium comprising:

program instructions for associating version numbers, each having a different value, with a data item, wherein said data item is externally inputted data that is managed by said content management system;

program instructions for storing a most recent version of said data item in a first table;

program instructions for storing a version of said data item other than said most recent version in a second table; and

program instructions for <u>performing an operation on said data item that changes a version of said data item in said first table or said second table</u> ~~determining the version of a stored data item based on said version number and storage location of said stored data item~~.

32. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 31, further comprising program instructions for associating said version number<u>s</u> with ~~a~~ <u>different</u> version<u>s</u> of said ~~stored~~ data item.

33. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 32, comprising program instructions for associating <u>each of</u> said <u>different versions</u> ~~stored data item~~ with a (version number − 1) value.

34. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 33, wherein ~~the~~ <u>a particular</u> version of said ~~stored~~ data item is determined based on <u>an associated one of</u> said (version number − 1) value<u>s</u>.

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35. (Original) The storage medium of claim 33, comprising program instructions for generating a value for said (version number -1) value by incrementing said (version number – 1) value from zero (0) to n.

36. (Original) The storage medium of claim 31, comprising program instructions for generating a value for said version number by incrementing said version number from zero (0) to m.

37. (Original) The storage medium of claim 36, wherein m has a predetermined maximum value.

38. (Original) The storage medium of claim 31, comprising program instructions for interpreting said version number, having a value of zero (0), with said most recent version of said stored data item or an oldest version of said stored data item, depending on a context of use for said version number.

39. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 31, comprising program instructions for interpreting an said operation including said version number, having a value of zero (0), as a request for said most recent version of said stored data item, wherein said operation is selected from a group consisting of a query operation, a retrieve operation, and an update operation.

40. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 31, comprising program instructions for interpreting an said operation including said version number having a value of zero (0) as a request for an oldest version of said stored data item, and said operation is a delete operation.

41. (Original) The storage medium of claim 31, comprising program instructions for retaining a column attribute of a column selected by a query performed on said first table and said second table.

42. (Original) The storage medium of claim 41, wherein said query invokes a union operation.

43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein said column attribute is obtained from a sequential query language description area (SQLDA) of said query result.